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2013 - Jul 23 - Aug 6



July Sangha e-Newsletter



Source: **Treasury of the True Dharma Eye**,
Zen Master Dogen's Shobo Genzo; *Arousing
the Aspiration for the Unsurpassable*

Edited by Kazuaki Tanahashi

...Bodhidharma, the First Ancestor of China
said "Mind is like wood and stone."

... Huizhong Great Master Dazheng said
walls, tiles and Pebbles are the ancient
Buddha mind."

Study and see through the whereabouts of
these walls, tiles and pebbles. Ask, "What
has manifested in this way?" The ancient
buddha mind is not bound to the realm of the King of the Empty Eon.
It is being satisfied with each meal. It is being satisfied with grass and
water. Investigating in this way sitting as a buddha, being a buddha, is
called arousing the aspiration for enlightenment...

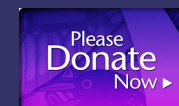


Upcoming Events:



Sewing Abbot's Robe with Tim Wicks - for the Mountain Seat

Please help support our
temple, Dharma study
& our programs.



Hartford Street Zen
Center is a 501(c)(3)
nonprofit organization.

Donations are tax-
deductible

Public Practice Schedule:

Monday

6:00 pm Zazen (seated meditation)
6:40 pm Chanting

Tuesday- Friday

6:00 am Zazen
6:40 am Kinhin (walking meditation)
6:50 am Zazen
7:20 am Chanting

Ceremony, Oct 13th!: Saturdays @11:30am

● **Dharma Talks** - Rev. Myo Lahey - Saturdays: Jul 27, Aug 3,17,24,31... @10:15am.

● **Guest Speakers Saturdays 10:15am** - **August** 10 - Rev Shokan Jordan Thorn; **September** 14 - Ayya Santacitta of Aloka Vihara; **October** 5 - Zachary Smith. Anshi Daigi; **November** 2 - Elaine Donlin Sensei of Jodo Shinshu; **December** 14 - Beata Chapman

● **Full Moon Ceremony** - Saturday July 27: Full Thunder Moon @11am

● **Sangha Council** - TBD

● **Founder's Memorial** - Issan's Memorial is generally on the 6th of the month, & the memorial for Philip Whalen is generally on the 26th @ 6:40pm

● **Study Hour** The Book of Serenity, we have books to share, we read together, feel free to drop in - Thursdays @7:30pm

● **Next Board of Directors' Meeting** - Second Wednesdays of the month: August 14 @7:30pm (you're welcome to attend/observe)



7:40 am Soji (brief temple cleaning)

6:00 pm Zazen

6:40 pm Chanting

Thursdays Study Hour 7:30pm

Saturday

6:30 am Zazen

7:10 am Chanting

7:25 am Soji

8:30 am Drop-in instruction

9:25 am Zazen

10:15 am Dharma Talk

11:00 am Refreshments/Social

HIV Meditation Sitting Group

weekly meditation group for those living with HIV, their friends, families, community supporters & anyone who wants to join us!
Thursdays & Fridays

10:30 am zazen

11:00 am garden socializing

Meditation in Recovery

(Men & Women)
weekly meditation group for men & women in recovery from addiction

Richard, Rev. Myo and Al. Richard & Al's wedding at HSZC July 18, 2013

●**For July to August:** A very deep congratulations to our sangha newlyweds! Henry, Richard & Tom have by now, or will be very soon be taking their relationship commitment leap into our recently recognized new legal right and option of same gender marriage. **Congratulations to you three and your spouses!** Wishing you many years of continued love and joy in your relationships as you have had to this point, but now have some added rights and benefits! Our deepest love and support in this long awaited and now realized equal right!

●**From our Resident Practitioners:** We are **still** seeking a dedicated, fellow resident practice student or Priest. [Visit here](#) to see more detail & PLEASE spread the word!

●**Words from our Practice Leader:** Reverend Myo Lahey -Valley Stream Dharma Talk
June 17, 2013



Zhaozhou tells his assembly...he's supposedly quoting some other source, but nobody seems to know what other source. He says something like, "you should redo the...deeds of the past, do not redo the person of the past." Very interesting remark, you should redo the deeds of the past, don't redo the person of the past. It's pretty clear that he's not

saying we can somehow go and change our past. We can't undo something that you have done. You can't unsay words that you've said. So ironically he's actually talking about the present, and saying, "most of what you confront as your life is the karma resultants of past gestures of body, speech and mind." It's not about reaching into the past, it's about seeing this body-mind presently manifested on the basis of an endless chain of causation. He's saying: that's our focus. Do not try and make of yourself a good person. Do not try to become somebody else, however tempting that may seem.

Fridays, 7:30 pm - 9 pm

Women's Meditation in Recovery

(Women only)

monthly meditation group for women in
recovery from addiction First
Thursdays

7:15 pm - 8:45 pm

Hartford Street Zen Center is a
Castro neighborhood temple &
residential practice center in the Soto
Zen tradition of Shunryu Suzuki Roshi
established to support & engage the
LGBTQI (Queer) Community and our
allies

● **Hartford Street History:** Dave Joko Haselwood, HSZC newsletter Fall 2000

"identity politics."

When you look at this phrase from the Zen point of view, you can see two sides to it. On what could be called the positive side. "identity politics" means that all the minority people in a society who have been marginalized, trivialized, persecuted, or what have you, begin to stand up for their right to be who they are. This is wonderful, and when this prevails in a society, pluralism prevails in a big way. There are many types of people and many ways, and each has its own legitimate aspect. That is the good side of identity politics. But there is another side to identity politics that we sometimes overlook, and that side can be very divisive. Divisiveness comes about when you identify with your identity, strange as that may sound. You can become so completely attached to your sense of Identity, whatever you think it...

● **From the Garden:** We found on Chinatravel dot com:

The first Chinese imperial gardens date back from the Zhou Dynasty (c. 1050–256 BC) to more than 3,000 years. It had at first a mystic origin having for symbols the mountain, the sea and the islands according to a legend which put side by side the Chinese garden with the Paradise in the world; Paradise which thrones at the top of the big mountain, on the distant islands in the middle of the sea.

There is the elixir of life which allows reaching the immortality. This legend explains the main role that the mountain, the sea and the islands play in the symbolism of the Chinese garden.

The Chinese garden developed then under the Han Dynasty (206 BC – 220 AD) being dedicated to the relaxation but without aesthetic exploration. From Tang (June 18, 618 – June 1, 907) and Song (960-1279) Dynasties, the environment begins to play a dominating role in the design of gardens.

It is under Ming (1368–1644) and Qing (1644-1911) Dynasties that it acquired its artistic dimension and attained its plenitude. Later, upper class Chinese appropriated gardens and accordingly added them a symbolic facet by considering them as a sanctuary of haven and meditation by recreating an idealized world.

The Chinese garden is a mirror image of the nature which favours the quality to the quantity in reference to the fundamental principle of Feng Shui: "less is better".

● **Ascending the Mountain:**

Sewing is still marching forward each Saturday and making great progress. Walls to be painted and garden work to get us to the point of the big Mountain Seat Hartford Street ZC Ceremony & celebration in October!

As always:

Our deepest gratitude to all who are helping to move this project forward.

● **Sangha Member Musing:** [Bruce Boone](#)

NEW! Women's Sitting group

(Women only)

Sitting followed by Dharma talk then tea and cookies. Mostly Zen.

**Kicks off Tues, September 3rd:
7pm-8:30pm**



This ocean, humiliating in its disguises
 Tougher than anything.
 No one listens to poetry. The ocean
 Does not mean to be listened to. A drop
 Or crash of water. It means
 Nothing.
 It
 Is bread and butter
 Pepper and salt. The death
 That young men hope for. Aimlessly
 It pounds the shore. White and aimless signals. No
 One listens to poetry.



Bruce Boone & Chris Fletcher July 21, 2013 Obon Festival held by the Jodo Shinshu, San Francisco

● **Board of Directors - Developments:** Continued planning and execution for the Mountain Seat Ceremony and the routine discussions keeping HSZC in operation and secure financial standing for many years to come.



Ready for "the" big commitment (Marriage) & seeking a LGBTQI, Buddhist space to start your new chapter in life? HSZC & Rev. Myo Lahey can be a part of this amazing & love filled ceremony. HSZC can house your Zen Buddhist Wedding ceremony & Rev Myo can perform weddings! Please email hszc108@yahoo.com, call us, or the best way to discuss is to stop by during our publicly open hours.

HSZC on [Facebook](#)

At [HSZC.org](#)

check out our [community events page](#) for more!

Via [Twitter](#)

Practice Leader, Hartford Street Zen Center (HSZC) --- Reverend Myō Lahey



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May this newsletter find you well & filled with equanimity! _/_

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